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## Appendix 7

# Superintendent Interviews

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### Introduction

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Park superintendents' input to the Arctic Network (ARCN) Monitoring Program is critical to its long term success. The purpose of this interview is to help us better understand the current and future challenges you face in managing your parklands and how best to make the ARCN monitoring program relevant to parks. The following is a series of questions about the natural resources, threats to those resources, and major resource management issues facing the parks now and in the foreseeable future.

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### Questions

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1. What are the park's most valuable/important/significant resources of concern? (e.g. springs, alpine habitats etc...)
2. What are the park's most valuable/important/significant species of concern?
3. What are the park's most important natural resource management issues?
4. What are the greatest current threats to significant park natural resources?
5. What are the greatest potential/future threats to significant park resources?
6. Are there any historic research, inventory, or monitoring projects that you think are especially valuable in understanding the park's natural systems?
7. Are you working with other agencies/land owners on any inventory, monitoring, research, or restoration projects?
8. If you could only have one long-term monitoring project in your park, what would it be?
9. We want information produced by the Inventory and Monitoring Program to be widely interpreted. What is the best way to make this information available to interpretive staff and the public?  
What is the best way to make this information available to you?
10. Are there other issues that you would like to be considered in developing this monitoring program?

**Thomas Heinlein, Superintendent: Bering Land Bridge  
National Preserve**

1. What are the park's most valuable/important/significant resources of concern?
  - Coastal ecosystems
  - Lagoons
  - All Riverine Habitats and Large Freshwater Lakes
  - Serpentine Hotsprings
  - Cultural Resources (especially the Trail Creek Caves Area)
  - Alpine areas (especially high altitude lakes)
2. What are the park's most valuable/important/significant species of concern?
  - Vegetation communities and Shrub Expansion
  - Subsistence and Sport Hunting Species (especially Bear, Muskox and Moose)
  - Species in the habitats listed in Question 1
3. What are the park's most important natural resource management issues?
  - Consumptive Uses of Resources
  - Liberalization of Sport Hunting Regulations
  - Predator Control Issues
  - Western Arctic Caribou Herd Expansion
4. What are the greatest current threats to significant park natural resources?
  - Efforts by DOT to push road to Serpentine Hotsprings
  - Road to new Shishmaref, Road from Tin Creek to Ear Mountain to obtain gravel for New Shishmaref Site
5. What are the greatest potential/future threats to significant park resources?
  - ATV Traffic Moving Out along ad hoc trails from proposed road corridors
  - Indirect effects of North Slope Industrial Development (e.g. oil spills due to increased shipping in the Chukchi and Berings Seas)
6. Are there any historic research, inventory, or monitoring projects that you think are especially valuable in understanding the park's natural systems?
  - Geothermal Dynamics at Serpentine Hotsprings
7. Are you working with other agencies/land owners on any inventory, monitoring, research, or restoration projects?
  - Alaska Department of Fish and Game (e.g. fish and mammals)

8. If you could only have one long-term monitoring project in your park, what would it be?
  - Coastal Processes
  - Coastal Erosion
  - Thermokarsting of the Landscape
9. We want information produced by the Inventory and Monitoring Program to be widely interpreted. What is the best way to make this information available to interpretive staff and the public? What is the best way to make this information available to you?
  - Direct Presentations/ Mini-Symposium/ Audio-Visual Presentations
10. Are there other issues that you would like to be considered in developing this monitoring program?
  - No additional Issues

**Dave Mills, Superintendent: Gates of the Arctic Park and Preserve**

1. What are the park's most valuable/important/significant resources of concern?
  - Lakes and Rivers and species within those river (e.g. six rivers designated Wild and Scenic)
  - Noatak River and its surrounding watershed
  - Natural Processes and the Wilderness Character of the Park
  - Spring areas (overwintering habitat for aquatic species)
2. What are the park's most valuable/important/significant species of concern?
  - Consumptive Species (especially fish, Dall's Sheep, caribou and moose)
  - Organisms at lower trophic levels of the food chain and the processes that support them
3. What are the park's most important natural resource management issues?
  - Water quality
  - Air quality
  - Maintaining natural and healthy populations
4. What are the greatest current threats to significant park natural resources?
  - Industrial development adjacent to the park and associated transportation issues (e.g. mineral and gas deposits)
  - Global changes in atmospheric conditions
5. What are the greatest potential/future threats to significant park resources?
  - Indirect effects of North Slope Industrial Development

6. **Are there any historic research, inventory, or monitoring projects that you think are especially valuable in understanding the park's natural systems?**
  - Anaktuvuk Pass and hunting
  - Traditional ecological knowledge
  - Local knowledge of inholders
7. **Are you working with other agencies/land owners on any inventory, monitoring, research, or restoration projects?**
  - Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game
  - U.S. Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
  - Local communities
8. **If you could only have one long-term monitoring project in your park, what would it be?**
  - Understanding building blocks (start low on the food chain)
  - Ecological building blocks vital to natural processes and cycles (e.g. insect biomass)
  - Water and water quality
  - Arctic vegetation
9. **We want information produced by the Inventory and Monitoring Program to be widely interpreted. What is the best way to make this information available to interpretive staff and the public?**  
**What is the best way to make this information available to you?**
  - Direct Presentations to local communities
  - Meet with superintendents and regional directorate once a month (mini-symposium)
  - Films
  - Radio
  - Knowledge > understanding > appreciation
10. **Are there other issues that you would like to be considered in developing this monitoring program?**
  - Emphasize the critical nature of working with indigenous cultures
  - Involve operational staff